"That Old Medical Fool!"

Said the Old Master With Great Disdain!

A HUMAN INTEREST STORY ABOUT DR. D. D. PALMER BY A. T. GODZWAY, M. D., D. C., SKIATOOK, OKLA., AS TOLD AT PALMER MEMORIAL DAY MEET.

I HAVE not been asked nor invited to "talk" or to speak to you, but to listen, and to hear and to enjoy your remarks as to what you think of and how you feel toward that great soul, Dr. Daniel David Palmer—and now that I am here and have heard only words of praise for his high ideals in his great philosophy, science and art,—I am reminded that he, like the most of us, had a very human side to his Saint-hood and that there is "some bad in the best of us, as well as some good in the worst of us"—in other words that we are ALL very intensely, HUMAN BEINGS.

Dr. Daniel David Palmer, as I knew him, was a gentleman of high honor and integrity, but with all had a very high temper, and an unforgiving disposition. He was very strong in his likes; when he liked you there was nothing too good for you, and when he disliked you, then there was nothing too bad that he could express for you.

I feel that I, possibly more than any other, was one on whom his hatred was manifested.

I count it a peculiar pleasure to be privileged to recall at least some of the characteristics of this great soul who discovered, developed and gave to the world of suffering humanity the greatest science of the age—CHIROPRACTIC; and I count it a far greater privilege to have been HIS student; to have learned HIS Philosophy, HIS Science, and HIS Art, in this great work; in other words to have been a Disciple at HIS feet in learning the greatest science of healing and relieving material suffering that the world has ever known. True there were times when his insistence on exactness of adjustment and its IMMEDIATE result of returned normality "grated" on me from its continued repetition, but these latter years have convinced me that the lack today in our later Students and Graduates is the lack of THAT REAL NECESSITY "Exactness of Adjustment" and that when results are not attained the lack of "Exactness of Adjustment" is the lacking CAUSE of the failure of the practitioner in getting satisfactory results.

Dr. Daniel David Palmer has been pictured here tonight as a NEAR Saint,—and that he is, in his gift to suffering humanity of the great Science of Chiropractic. But with this great gift to humanity as a "gift to humanity" on his right shoulder, he carried another "chip" on his left shoulder for those who might differ with him, and who could not accept his theories or his reasoning or his claims for his science of adjustment of the skeletal frame for the relief of human and animal ills. He was very "raw" and I may say uncivil to any and all members of the medical profession—at least all that I've ever known him to speak of, not even excepting the partner with whom he was associated in his school in Oklahoma City, when and where I was his student.

You have been told of his birth, his early life and his work as a Magnetic Healer and of the incidents that led up to his great discovery of Chiropractic, but no one has told you of the other side. You have been told a **part** but no one has told you the **all**, no one has told you the sordid TRUTH, and I'm here to tell you a **part** of that, but not all even of THAT.

Dr. Palmer was tried in Davenport, Iowa, for practicing MEDICINE without a license, was convicted and jailed for it; he served his jail sentence, and when he got out of jail, he left Davenport and went to Medford, Oklahoma, and went in the mercantile business with his brother; some months later he was persuaded to go to Oklahoma City where he, with a medical associate, started another Chiropractic College. At this stage I met him and our "troubles" began. I called on him, in his new office, to obtain information as to what Chiropractic was—what it was that his school was to teach.

I did not intend for him to ever know my real identity, or for him to ever know that I was an M. D., but he seemed to sense the truth as soon as I met him, and within the first few minutes made me acknowledge the truth. And then our troubles began for he broached the subject of Tuberculosis, and said to me that Tuberculosis was a very simple trouble when taken early, when the patient had the equivalent of one good lung, even as with one good eye a patient may see, and with one good ear a patient can hear; and he further continued, to tell me that the tubercular germ did NOT CAUSE tuberculosis, and I couldn't stand it any longer so I fired back at him:—"Well, Doctor, I must confess that either you are a darn fool, or you think that I am one. I don't know which, nor do I think it matters very much which way you think about it." That my friends is the way the great argument began and I got a generous "rasping" nearly every day before the whole class of which I was a member. Dr. Palmer delighted in calling me "that old Medical Fool" and often reminded me that I was stuffed so full of Medicine and Surgery that there was no room for anything else, and that he had little hope of ever making a real good chiropractor out of me; but when he handed me my diploma, he remarked that it was indeed a pleasure to be able [Continued on page 30



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The

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Dr. L. M. Rogers, Editor

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"OLD MEDICAL FOOL"

(Continued from page 5)

to hand me that certificate of award, and at our graduating supper in his home, he slapped me on the back and told me that he was proud of me. (Later correspondence, after he had located in Los Angeles, confirmed this assertion).

Dr. Daniel David Palmer was a gentleman of the highest honor, very strong in his loves and hates, and of a very high strung, sensitive disposition. He always wore a long beard and when talking and very interested would work his lips in such a manner as to raise and lower his moustache and whiskers to impress his convictions on those who were listening to him. He seemed to always think his ASSERTION was sufficient proof of any argument or any statement that he might make; that for him to **say so** was sufficient to **make it so.**

During my school days under Dr. D. D. Palmer, I learned to dread the approaching hour for recitation or lecture under him, he seemed to take a pride in upbraiding me, seemed to blame ME for all the troubles that the Medical Profession at large had imposed on him—seemed to feel that I, personally, was the CAUSE of his imprisonment, and was only too glad to even-up scores with me personally. He took great pride in telling me that I was "an old Medical Fool." I tried one time to reason with him before the class, but soon found that it only added fuel to the fire and made him worse rather than better and, after this experience, I took the "dose" with the best possible grace. These incidents may be verified by Dr. C. Sterling Cooley of Tulsa, who was at that time also a student and often heard these personal abuses given before the assembled class. I would also state that Dr. D. D. Palmer seemed always to have a grudge against another member of his own family, and that he was not dilatory in censuring him in no uncertain terms. These traits in my Preceptor made him a REAL human being to those who knew him personally, not the Saint that he is now being pictured. I think of and know him as "ONE OF US," who was anxious to teach us ALL OF THE GOOD that HE KNEW SO WELL, and to make each of us the EXPERT in relieving human suffering that HE WAS.

I gladly forgave ALL, when he placed his arm around me at the graduating supper in his home and said, "You old Medical Fool, after all, I'm proud of YOU."

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Boss—There's two dollars missing from my desk drawer and no one but you and I have a key to it.

Office boy—Well, let's each put a dollar back and forget it.

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Remember the old time declaration, "Tell me what you eat, and I'll tell you what you are?" The question was asked a practical joker who replied, "I eat nails." And quickly came the retort, "You are a liar."

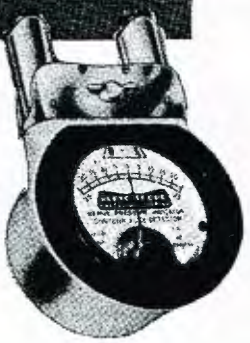
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The twenty-five members of the state association elected Dr. Jack Benton, Tulsa, president-elect. They elevated Dr. John Duncum, Oklahoma City, to the presidency.

Other new officers are Dr. George King, Chickasha, vice-president; Dr. Goldia B. Young, Oklahoma City, secretary; Dr. Lewis Flagler, Lawton, assistant secretary; and Dr. Wayne Clark, Oklahoma City, treasurer.—From the Tulsa (Okla.) Daily World, October 8, 1961.

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OKLAHOMA

Local Doctor Heads Section

Dr. A. B. McNatt, Oklahoma City, has been elected president of the Physical Therapy Education and Research Section of the Oklahoma Chiropractic Physicians Association.

Other officers in the section, elected at a state convention this week end are: Dr. Charles H. McDonald, Oklahoma City, vice-president; Dr. Mary Cozart, Oklahoma City, secretary; Dr. R. M. LaSell, Pauls Valley, treas.

The group recommended appointing a committee to provide a list of physiotherapy equipment in the state for use of the chiropractic physicians.—From the Daily Oklahoman, October 9, 1961.

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Forward via Fundamentals

By C. Sterling Cooley, D. C., Editor of the Magazine of the Oklahoma Chiropractic Physicians Association

On October 2, the editor of the *Magazine* received one of the first copies of "A Journey to Understanding With the Founder of Chiropractic—Dr. D. D. Palmer." It is a classic, wrapped up in twenty-six pages, that points the way to Utopia for the chiropractic profession, compiled by Dr. L. M. Rogers, executive-secretary of the National Chiropractic Association.

Some ninety authentic quotations which were selected from the original and only book ever published by Dr. D. D. Palmer during his lifetime—*The Science, Art, and Philosophy of Chiropractic*—are included.

This classic brochure should be in the library of every chiropractor, regardless of his or her concept of chiropractic or his or her affiliation, for it is truly a classic in chiropractic literature, and too, it is about the only publication in circulation today that gives the true D. D. Palmer concept of chiropractic by the man who founded the profession of chiropractic on September 18, 1895.

Ponder this from the author's "Foreword," page 4, paragraph 3. Truer words were never spoken to the chiropractic profession by any one:

> "If we cannot UNITE on the promotion and practice of the modern interpretation of the comprehensive principles of chiropractic AS LAID DOWN by the founder of this profession, WE HAVE NOTHING WHATSOEVER IN COMMON TO UNITE ON . . ."

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Dr. L. M. Rogers, executive secretary, NCA, National Building, Webster City, Iowa.—Editorial in the *Magazine* of the Oklahoma Chiropractic Physicians Association for November, 1961.